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Typhoon Pakyo 2021 Virtual Workshop Completed; Emergency Managers Assess Typhoon Response Plans

The Offices of Guam Homeland Security and Civil Defense (GHS/OCD), along with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region IX, cohosted the Typhoon Pakyo 2021 Virtual Workshop from Tuesday, June 8 through Friday, June 11, 2021.

The four-day workshop provided a forum of discussion and analysis of preparedness and response activities; and prepared key stakeholders and emergency management partners for their roles and responsibilities during a catastrophic typhoon. Participants talked through the planning considerations of the Guam Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (Guam CEMP) and the Catastrophic Typhoon Plan. The annual exercise provides the opportunity to evaluate federal and territorial integration with the GHS/OCD Emergency Operations Center.

Each day amassed over 100 participants from the Government of Guam, Joint Region Marianas, respective military, federal, and Department of Defense partners, private and non-profit organizations, and other emergency management partners that play a role in preparedness for, response to, and recovery from a major storm.

This year's Typhoon Pakyo workshop is in preparation for the upcoming Typhoon Pakyo Tabletop Exercise in 2022 and the planned Typhoon Pakyo Regional Full-Scale Exercise in 2023 in coordination with the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas.

"Workshops and exercises help us practice plans, review our assumptions and prepare more effectively to respond together to disasters," said FEMA Regional Administrator Robert Fenton. "Guam's Typhoon Pakyo events strengthen partnerships and readiness across many agencies, and we train the way we will in real emergencies."

"Each year we look forward to the outcome of exercises and workshops like Typhoon Pakyo 2021 to identify any areas that need to be addressed prior to a real-world event," said Office of Civil Defense Acting Administrator Patrick Leon Guerrero. "The discussion items from last week's workshop strengthen Guam's ability to respond and recover from a catastrophic typhoon and it was great to see that collaborations are underway, plans are being completed, and the various agencies are prepared to execute these tasks if and when the time comes."

For more information, contact GHS/OCD Public Information Officer, Jenna G. Blas at (671) 489-2540 or via email at jenna.g.blas@ghs.guam.gov.